# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# DEFENCE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:618
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2016
Rescue Operation at Siachen
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**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has launched any rescue operation to locate / retrieve the bodies of soldiers who were buried in the avalanche in Siachen recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Government announced any special compensation to the families of those soldiers died on duty; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

## Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) & (b): On the night of 02/03 Feb, 2016, a massive ice wall facing Sonam Post in Northern Glacier (Siachen) suddenly collapsed and 10 Army personnel were trapped under it. All possible resources of the Army/Air Force were mobilized and directed towards the rescue operation launched to rescue them. On 08th Feb, 2016, mortal remains of five soldiers were recovered and Lance Naik Hanumanthappa Koppad was rescued alive. On 09th Feb, 2016, mortal remains of the remaining four soldiers were recovered. Lance Naik Koppad, however, expired on 11th Feb, 2016 despite medical efforts at Research and Referral Hospital, New Delhi.

(c) & (d): The details of benefits/compensation admissible to Next of Kin of the soldiers (fatal battle casualties) is annexed.
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